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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 10/576,357 | 04/19/2006 | Anton Bleikolm | 5829 | 9481 |
| 26936 | 7590 | 12/15/2008 | EXAMINER | |
| SHOEMAKER AND MATTARE, LTD 10 POST OFFICE ROAD - SUITE 110 SILVER SPRING, MD 20910 | | | | GRABOWSKI, KYLE ROBERT |
| ART UNIT | | PAPER NUMBER | | |
| 3725 | | | | |
| MAIL DATE | | DELIVERY MODE | | |
| 12/15/2008 | | PAPER | | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/576,357 | BLEIKOLM ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Kyle Grabowski | 3725 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 November 2008.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 16, 18-20, 24, 25 and 27 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 16, 18-20, 24, 25 and 27 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 24 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

| | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This non-final action is in response to the RCE filed on 11/25/08

Claim Objections

2. Claim 24 is objected to because of the following informalities: "the group consisting of covert security elements" lacks proper antecedent basis. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 16, 18-20, 24-25, and 27, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Schneider et al. (US 2003/0164611).

5. In respect to claim 16 and 20, Schneider et al. disclose a security document comprising a substrate 1 as a first constituting part, and at least one other constituting part, a security thread 3, wherein a same, ink-based security element having identifiable properties, the presence of said properties serving as a first authenticating feature for

said security document, is contained a first time in the substrate (via security thread 4), and a second time in an ink or coating printed (applied) on said substrate as a second security feature 2 (Fig. 1), wherein said security element contains a printed layer 7 of liquid-crystal pigments or interference-coated particles, for example (0052, Fig. 2). The same printed layer structure can be used as the security thread 3 (0065). To be clear, the security thread is an *additional* security element (0048, Fig. 1). The orientation of the security elements allow a comparison of their properties as a third security feature (they can both be seen at the same time for example) (Fig. 1).

6. In respect to claims 18-19, the security document which comprises substrate 1 may be a banknote, which is paper (Abstract).
7. In respect to claim 24, covert inks such as luminescent inks may be used for the security element (0013).
8. In respect to claims 25 and 27, Schneider et al. disclose the claimed subject matter for the reasons stated above.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 16, 18-20, 24-25, and 27, have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
10. The new art better articulates that the two security features coexist on the substrate, rather than alternative substitution.
11. In addition, the application of new art is not an admission that the present invention is non-obvious over Plaschka et al. which was previously applied.

Conclusion

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kyle Grabowski whose telephone number is (571)270-3518. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dana Ross can be reached on (571)272-4480. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kyle Grabowski/
Examiner, Art Unit 3725

/Dana Ross/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 3725